



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Taggart, et al.

Examiner: Soubra, I.

Serial No.: 09/354,478

Art Unit: 1744

Filing Date: 07/15/99

Docket No.: STEU-2661

Title: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING CONTAINER INTERIOR  
STERILIZATION IN AN ASEPTIC PROCESSING APPARATUS**

Commissioner for Patents  
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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 6, 2001, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Thrice Amended) Apparatus comprising:

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c'
- a first supply source of sterile air;
  - a supply source of sterilant;
  - an atomizing system producing an atomized sterilant from the mixing of the sterile air from the first supply source of sterile air with the sterilant;
  - a second supply source of a hot sterile air for providing the hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;
  - a probe for applying the atomized sterilant into an interior of a container;

09/354,478